'Polka Dot' Girl's Kin Asks Suicide Probe

By CY EGAN

The family of Kathy Fulmer, 23, the go-go dancer who identified herself as the girl in the polka dot dress at the Sen. Robert F. Kennedy assassination scene, called today for an investigation of her death.

"Kathy got several death threats after she came forward in the Kennedy case," said Kent Floerke, brother-in-law of the dancer whose death has been tentatively termed suicide by the Los Angeles police.

"Her death may or may not have something to do with the Kennedy case but it certainly should be more thoroughly investigated. Up to now the handling of the case has been lousy, and there's been an awful lot of hush-hush."

Floerke, a placement counselor who is married to Kathy's sister, Sandra, and lives in the Los Angeles suburb of Covina, charged that the county corner at first refused to perform an autopsy ordered by doctors at Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center.

Kathy died at the medical center after she was found in a coma in a motel room late last Monday from what police said was apparently in overdose of sleeping pills. She had registered earlier in the day under the name "Sandy Rossi." She used the name Sandy Rossi professionally.

Scrawled in lipstick on a mirror in her room was: "Lord you gave me a mountain and I'm loved to climb. . . . A wooden box will do."

Floerke said he was especially incensed that his wife was not made aware of Kathy's death until late Wednesday when the family learned that a notification telegram had been sent to Kathy's father, John Fulmer, who is blind, at his home in Kansas City.

"When we called the coroner's office, we were told we could not make an identification," he said.

"My wife had to go down there and practically force her way in. Then we learned they had not performed the ordered autopsy. They finally did, but the findings on the exact cause of death were deferred."

Floerke said Kathy had come to live with him and his wife for a time after receiving the death threats shortly after she came forward when police issued a bulletin for a woman in a white dress with polka dots who had been seen talking with Sirhan Sirhan, Kennedy's accused assassin before the killing.

Kathy said she did not know Sirhan, but had been nearby when Kennedy was fatally wounded in a corridor at the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles and had fled shouting "They shot him." Police who questioned her said there was no evidence she was involved and voiced belief she had injected herself to get publicity.

KATHY FULMER
'You gave me a mountain'

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